House.

Shares of Maruti Udyog Limited

2424. SHRI RAM VILAS PASWAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of private shares in the Maruti Udyog Limited has been increased;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government propose to give some percentage of the shares to workers; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) and (b). Government has approved the proposal of Suzuki Motor Corporation to increase its equity in Maruti Udyog Limited from 40% to 50%.

(c) and (d). Government has already agreed to disinvest its equity upto 9% of the total 60% in favour of Maruti Udyog Limited Employees Mutual Benefit Fund through which the employees indirectly hold equity in the company. In 1990-91 employees bought 26,000 shares constituting 0.24% of the total equity, under this scheme. This year, employees have so far paid for the purchase of 6,400 shares.

Paper and Cardboard based Industries in Garhwal Region, Uttar Pradesh

2425. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have ascertained the possibilities to set up paper or cardboard based industries in the hilly areas of Uttar Pradesh, particularly in Garhwal region;

(b) if not, whether the Government propose to set up such industries in this no-industry region of U.P.;

(c) if so, the details there-of; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (PROF.P. J. KURIEN): (a) to (d). In accordance with the National Forest Policy, Government of India do not encourage setting up of wood based paper industry. Therefore, exemption from previsions of industrial licensing has been accorded to all projects in which at least 75% pulp is from non-conventional raw material e.g. bagasse, jute etc. All proposals in which wood is envisaged as a raw material are subject to compulsory licensing provisions. [*English*]

Low Cost Housing Technology

2426. SHRI GANGADHARA SINIPALLI: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the research and development efforts made in developing low cost housing technology have produced the desired results;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to propagate this technology?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b). Research and development activities carried out by various national level institutions like Central Building Research Institute, Structural Engineering Research Centre, National Building Organisation, HUDCO and Building Material and Technology Promotion Council etc. had led to development of various low cost building materials and technologies which have been successfully adopted in a number of housing projects